

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

App. No. : 10/708,301 Confirmation No. 2300
Applicant : Akira Kuibira, et al.
Filed : February 23, 2004
T.C./A.U. : 3742
Examiner : Sang Yeop Paik
Docket No. : 39.034
Customer No. : 29453

Honorable Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

This constitutes an Information Disclosure Statement pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98. The attached documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08 are hereby brought to the Examiner's attention in the patent application identified above.

REMARKS

All of the presently submitted references, i.e., Cite Nos. F1 through F5 as listed on Form PTO/SB/08, are not in English. These references were cited in a communication from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart Japanese application.

Concise Explanation of Relevance/Copy of Translation
Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3)

As a concise explanation of the relevance of the presently submitted Japanese-language references, an English translation of the Japanese Patent Office communication in its entirety is submitted herewith. The JPO communication was in Japanese Pat. App. No. 2003-050395, the foreign patent application on the basis of

which priority is claimed in the present application. (A copy of the Japanese Patent Office communication in its entirety follows the English translation.)

Furthermore, English abstracts of Cite Nos. F1 through F3 and F5 are available on the Japanese Patent Office website through Patent Abstracts of Japan (PAJ), and a copy of the corresponding abstract is attached to the back of each reference. (Cite No. F4 is the PCT Gazette publication of an International application, and as such includes the WIPO abstract on the front page.)

STATEMENT AS SPECIFIED IN 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

The undersigned hereby states that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than 3 months prior to the filing of this statement.

FEE AS STIPULATED IN 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)

A Final Rejection was issued in the present application on May 31, 2006. Accordingly, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d), in addition to the § 1.97(e) statement above, the fee set forth in § 1.17(p) is being submitted in an authorization, accompanying the EFS Web submission of this paper, to charge to a credit card the \$180 fee.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to consider this reference, and to indicate so on the accompanying Form PTO/SB/08 and make the document of record in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

June 6, 2006

/James Judge/

James W. Judge
Registration No. 42,701

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**
(Use as many sheets as necessary)

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<i>Complete if Known</i>	
Application Number	10/708,301
Filing Date	February 23, 2004
First Named Inventor	Akira Kuibira
Art Unit	3742
Examiner Name	Sang Yeop Paik
Attorney Docket Number	39 034

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.*	FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENT		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T#
		Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY			
		Country Code ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (# known)				
	F1	JP-2004-071647-A	03-04-2004	NGK Spark Plug		✓
	F2	JP-H09-249465-A	09-22-1997	NGK Insulators		✓
	F3	JP-2002-313781-A	10-25-2002	Sumitomo Electric		✓
	F4	WO-00/60658	10-12-2000	Tokyo Electron		✓
	F5	JP-2001-298074-A	10-26-2001	Ibiden		✓

Examiner Signature _____ Date Considered _____

¹EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ²Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ³See Kinds of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 801.04. ⁴Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁵For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁶Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁷Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 36 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND

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